

**47 CFR Part 65**

Communications common carriers, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Interest cost capitalized.

Federal Communications Commission.

Donna R. Searcy,

Secretary.

**Rule Changes**

47 CFR Parts 32 and 65 are proposed to be amended as follows:

**PART 32—UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES**

1. The authority citation for Part 32 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** secs. 4(i), 4(j) and 220 as amended; 47 U.S.C. 154(i), 154(j) and 220 unless otherwise noted.

2. Paragraph 32.2000(c)(2)(x) is revised to read as follows:

**§ 32.2000 Instructions for telecommunications plant accounts.**

(c) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(x) "Capitalized interest cost" includes the cost of funds used during construction. Capitalized interest cost shall be charged to assets in Account 2003, Telecommunications Plant Under Construction, and, if appropriate under generally accepted accounting principles, on suspended construction projects reclassified to Account 2006 (as provided in § 32.2003(c)) as follows: If financing plans associate a specific new borrowing with an asset, the rate on that borrowing may be used for the asset; if no specific new borrowing is associated with an asset or if the average accumulated expenditures for the asset exceed the amounts of specific new borrowings associated with it, the capitalization rate to be applied to such excess shall be a weighted average of the rates applicable to other borrowings of the enterprise. The amount of interest cost capitalized in an accounting period shall not exceed the total amount of interest cost incurred by the company in that period. Such amounts included in the cost of construction shall be credited to Account 7340, Interest Cost Capitalized.

3. Section 32.2003 is amended by revising the section heading and paragraphs (a) and (c) to read as follows:

**§ 32.2003 Telecommunications plant under construction.**

(a) This account shall include the original cost of construction projects. (Note also § 32.2000(c).)

(c) If a construction project has been suspended for six months or more, the cost of the project included in this account shall be transferred to Account 2006, Nonoperating Plant, without further direction or approval of this Commission. If a project is abandoned, the cost included in this account shall be charged to Account 7370, Special Charges.

**§ 32.2004 [Removed]**

4. Section 32.2004 is removed.

5. Section 32.7340 is revised in its entirety to read as follows:

**§ 32.7340 Interest cost capitalized.**

This account shall be credited with such amounts that are charged to plant accounts for the purpose of capitalizing interest cost. (See § 32.2000(c)(2)(x).)

**PART 65—INTERSTATE RATE OF RETURN PRESCRIPTION PROCEDURES AND METHODOLOGIES**

1. The authority citation for part 65 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** Secs. 4, 201, 202, 203, 205, 218, 403, 48 Stat., 1066, 1072, 1077, 1094, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154, 201, 202, 203, 205, 218, 403.

2. Section 65.450(d) is revised to read as follows:

**§ 65.450 Net Income.**

(d) Except for interest cost capitalized, reasonable charitable deductions and interest related to customer deposits, the amounts recorded as nonoperating income and expenses and taxes (Accounts 7300–7450) and interest and related items (Accounts 7500–7540) and extraordinary items (Accounts 7600–7640) shall not be included unless this Commission specifically determines that particular items recorded in those accounts shall be included.

3. Section 65.820(a) is revised to read as follows:

**§ 65.820 Included Items.**

(a) *Telecommunications Plant.* The interstate portion of all assets summarized in Account 2001 (Telecommunications Plant in Service) and Account 2002 (Property Held for Future Use), net of accumulated depreciation and amortization, and Account 2003 (Telecommunications Plant Under Construction), and, to the extent such inclusions are allowed by this Commission, Account 2005 (Telecommunications Plant Adjustment), net of accumulated amortization. Any interest cost for funds used during construction capitalized on

assets recorded in these accounts shall be computed in accordance with the procedures in § 32.2000(c)(2)(x).

Federal Communications Commission.

Donna R. Searcy,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 93–6840 Filed 3–24–93; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**50 CFR Part 17**

RIN 1018–AB83

**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Endangered Status for the Plant *Tetramolopium capillare* (Pamakani)**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposes endangered status pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), for the plant *Tetramolopium capillare* (pamakani). Two extant populations containing a total of 12 known individuals of the species remain in the southwestern portion of West Maui. The species and its habitat have been variously affected or are currently threatened by fire and by habitat degradation and competition from invasive alien plant species. Due to the small number of existing individuals and their very narrow distribution, this species is subject to reduced reproductive vigor and/or an increased likelihood of extinction from stochastic events. This proposal, if made final, would implement the Federal protection and recovery provisions provided by the Act. If made final, it would also activate and augment State regulations protecting *Tetramolopium capillare* as an endangered species. Comments and Materials related to this proposal are solicited.

**DATES:** Comments from all interested parties must be received by May 24, 1993. Public hearing requests must be received by May 10, 1993.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to Robert P. Smith, Field Supervisor, Pacific Islands Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, room 6307, P.O. Box 50167, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment,

during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robert P. Smith, at the above address (808/541-2749).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

*Tetramolopium capillare* was first collected in 1819 on Maui by Charles Gaudichaud-Beaupre. He named this sterile specimen *Senecio capillaris*, choosing the specific epithet to refer to its very narrow involute leaves (with margins rolled under along the edges) (Gaudichaud-Beaupre 1830). Based on a fertile specimen collected on Maui in the 1830s, Sherff (1935) described and named *Tetramolopium bennettii*. After examining and comparing type specimens, St. John (1965) determined that Gaudichaud-Beaupre's *Senecio capillaris* and Sherff's *Tetramolopium bennettii* was actually the same species and that Sherff had placed the taxon in the correct genus; St. John (1965) subsequently made the new combination *Tetramolopium capillare*. Later, St. John (1974) described a new genus, *Luteidiscus*, for species of *Tetramolopium* with yellow dish florets, and formed the combination *Luteidiscus capillaris*. In the current treatment of the genus, Lowrey (1981, 1986, 1990) does not recognize St. John's division of the genus.

*Tetramolopium capillare* is a sprawling shrub with stems measuring 50 to 80 centimeters (cm) (20 to 31 inches (in)) long and covered with many glands when young. The very firm, stalkless leaves are involute and are usually 13 to 25 millimeters (mm) (0.5 to 1 in) long and 0.3 to 0.4 mm (about 0.01 in) wide. Flower heads are situated singly at the ends of stalks 1 to 3.5 cm (0.4 to 1.4 in) long. Located beneath each flower head are 45 to 50 bracts, arranged in a structure 3 to 4 mm (about 0.1 in) high and 7 to 10 mm (0.3 to 0.4 in) in diameter. In each flower head, 30 to 50 white, male ray florets, 3.5 to 4 mm (about 0.1 in) long and 0.6 to 8 mm (0.02 to 0.3 in) wide, surround 15 to 25 greenish yellow tinged with red, functionally female florets about 3.6 mm (0.1 in) long. The achenes (dry, one-seeded fruits) measure 2 to 2.6 mm (0.08 to 0.1 in) long and 0.7 to 0.8 mm (0.03 to 0.1 in) wide and are topped by a white pappus comprising a single series of bristles 1.9 to 2.1 mm (0.07 to 0.08 in) long. *Tetramolopium capillare* differs from other species of the genus by its very firm leaves with edges rolled under, its solitary flower heads, the color of its disk florets, and its shorter pappus. It differs from *Tetramolopium*

*remyi*, with which it sometimes grows, by its more sprawling habit and the shorter stalks of its smaller flower heads (Lowrey 1990).

Historically, *Tetramolopium capillare* is known from Lahainaluna to Wailuku on West Maui (Lowrey 1981). This species is known to be extant near Halepohaku on State land (Hawaii Plant Conservation Center (HPCC) 1992a, 1992b). The two known populations, which are separated by 2.4 kilometers (km) (1.8 miles (mi)), contain a total of 12 known plants (Steve Perlman, HPCC, pers. comms., 1992). *Tetramolopium capillare* typically grows on rock substrates at elevations between 615 and 900 meters (m) (2,020 to 3,000 feet (ft)) in Lowland Dry Mixed Shrub and Grassland and in Montane Dry Shrubland. Plant species associated with the higher elevation population include *Dodonaea viscosa* ('a'ali'i), *Metrosideros polymorpha* ('ohi'a), and *Styphelia tameiameia* (pukiawe). 'A'ali'i, *Heteropogon contortus* (pili grass), and *Myoporum sandwicense* (naio) are associates of the other population. The major threats to *Tetramolopium capillare* are fire; competition from alien plant species, particularly *Lantana camara* (lantana), *Leucaena leucocephala* (koa haole), and *Rynchelytrum repens* (Natal redtop); and reduced reproductive vigor and/or extinction from stochastic events due to the small number of existing populations and individuals (HPCC 1992a, 1992b).

**Previous Federal Action**

Federal action on this species began as a result of section 12 of the Act, which directed the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to prepare a report on plants considered to be endangered, threatened, or extinct in the United States. This report, designated as House Document No. 94-51, was presented to Congress on January 9, 1975. In that document, *Tetramolopium capillare* was considered to be extinct. On July 1, 1975, the Service published a notice in the *Federal Register* (40 FR 27823) of its acceptance of the Smithsonian report as a petition within the context of section 4(c)(2) (now section 4(b)(3)) of the Act, and giving notice of its intention to review the status of the plant taxa named therein. As a result of that review, on June 16, 1976, the Service published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* (41 FR 24523) to determine endangered status pursuant to section 4 of the Act for approximately 1,700 vascular plant species, including *Tetramolopium capillare*. The list of 1,700 plant taxa was assembled on the basis of

comments and data received by the Smithsonian Institution and the Service in response to House Document No. 94-51 and the July 1, 1975, *Federal Register* publication. General comments received in response to the 1976 proposal are summarized in an April 26, 1978, *Federal Register* publication (43 FR 17909). In 1978, amendments to the Act required that all proposals over 2 years old be withdrawn. A 1-year grace period was given to proposals already over 2 years old. On December 10, 1979, the Service published a notice in the *Federal Register* (44 FR 70796) withdrawing the portion of the June 16, 1976, proposal that had not been made final, along with four other proposals that had expired. The Service published updated notices of review for plants on December 15, 1980 (45 FR 82479), September 27, 1985 (50 FR 39525), and February 21, 1990 (55 FR 6183). In these notices, *Tetramolopium capillare* was treated as a Category 1\* species. Category 1\* taxa are those which are possibly extinct. Because the species was rediscovered in 1991, it is now being proposed for listing.

Section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Act requires the Secretary to make findings on certain pending petitions within 12 months of their receipt. Section 2(b)(1) of the 1982 amendments further requires all petitions pending on October 13, 1982, be treated as having been newly submitted on that date. On October 13, 1983, the Service found that the petitioned listing of *Tetramolopium capillare* was warranted, but precluded by other pending listing actions, in accordance with section 4(b)(3)(B)(iii) of the Act; notification of this finding was published on January 20, 1984 (49 FR 2485). Such a finding requires the petition to be recycled, pursuant to section 4(b)(3)(C)(i) of the Act. The finding was reviewed in October of 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, and 1991. Publication of the present proposed rule constitutes the final 1-year finding for this species.

**Summary of Factors Affecting the Species**

Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1533) and regulations (50 CFR part 424) promulgated to implement the Act set forth the criteria and procedures for adding species to the Federal Lists. A species may be determined to be an endangered species due to one or more of the five factors described in section 4(a)(1). These factors and their application to *Tetramolopium capillare* (Gaud.) St. John are as follows:

**A. The Present or Threatened Destruction, Modification, or Curtailment of Its Habitat or Range**

The habitat of *Tetramolopium capillare* has undergone extreme alteration because of past and present land management practices, including grazing and alien plant introductions. Cattle (*Bos taurus*), the wild progenitor of which was native to Europe, north Africa, and southwestern Asia, were introduced to the Hawaiian Islands in 1793. This animal eats native vegetation, tramples roots and seedlings, causes erosion, creates disturbed areas into which alien plants invade, and spreads seeds of alien plants (Cuddihy and Stone 1990). Feral cattle were formerly found on Maui and affected areas within the historic range of *Tetramolopium capillare* (Lowrey 1981).

**B. Overutilization for Commercial, Recreational, Scientific, or Educational Purposes**

Unrestricted collecting for scientific or horticultural purposes and excessive visits by individuals interested in seeing rare plants could result from increased publicity. This is a potential threat to *Tetramolopium capillare*, which has only 2 populations and a total of 12 known individuals. Any collection of whole plants or reproductive parts of this species would cause an adverse impact on the gene pool and threaten the survival of the species.

**C. Disease or Predation**

No evidence of disease or predation of *Tetramolopium capillare* has been reported.

**D. The Inadequacy of Existing Regulatory Mechanisms**

Hawaii's Endangered Species Act states, "Any species of aquatic life, wildlife, or land plant that has been determined to be an endangered species pursuant to the [Federal] Endangered Species Act shall be deemed to be an endangered species under the provisions of this chapter \* \* \*" (HRS, sect. 195D-4(a)). Federal listing would automatically invoke listing under Hawaii State law, which prohibits taking of endangered plants in the State and encourages conservation by State agencies (HRS, sect. 195D-4). *Tetramolopium capillare* is not presently listed as an endangered species by the State of Hawaii. Both populations of this species occur on State land. State laws relating to the conservation of biological resources allow for the acquisition of land as well as the development and implementation of programs concerning the

conservation of biological resources (HRS, sect. 195D-5(a)). The State also may enter into agreements with Federal agencies to administer and manage any area required for the conservation, management, enhancement, or protection of endangered species (HRS, sect. 195D-5(c)). If listing were to occur, funds for these activities could be made available under section 6 of the Federal Act (State Cooperative Agreements).

Conservation district lands are regarded, among other purposes, as necessary for the protection of endemic biological resources and the maintenance or enhancement of the conservation of natural resources. Requests for amendments to district boundaries or variances within existing classifications can be made by government agencies and private landowners (HRS, sect. 205-4). The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources is mandated to initiate changes in conservation district boundaries to include "the habitat of rare native species of flora and fauna within the conservation district" (HRS, sect. 195D-5.1). Hawaii environmental policy, and thus approval of land use, is required by law to safeguard " \* \* \* the State's unique natural environmental characteristics \* \* \*" (HRS, sect. 344-3(1)) and includes guidelines to "Protect endangered species of individual plants and animals \* \* \*" (HRS, sect. 344-4(3)(A)). Federal listing, because it automatically invokes State listing, would also trigger these other State regulations protecting *Tetramolopium capillare*. The Federal Act would offer additional protection to this species because, if it were to be listed as endangered, it would be a violation of the Act for any person to remove, cut, dig up, damage, or destroy any such plant in an area not under Federal jurisdiction in knowing violation of State law or regulation or in the course of any violation of a State criminal trespass law.

**E. Other Natural or Manmade Factors Affecting Its Continued Existence**

The small number of individuals and populations of *Tetramolopium capillare* increases the potential for extinction from stochastic events. The limited gene pool may depress reproductive vigor, or a single human-caused or natural environmental disturbance could destroy a significant percentage of the individuals or an entire population. Erosion due to natural weathering in areas where *Tetramolopium capillare* grows can result in the death of individual plants and habitat destruction. This process especially affects the continued existence of taxa

or populations with limited numbers and/or narrow ranges, such as *Tetramolopium capillare*, and can be exacerbated by human disturbance and land use practices.

Erosion provides a suitable site for colonization by alien plants. Three alien plant species, naturalized in dry, disturbed areas on all the main Hawaiian islands, compete with *Tetramolopium capillare*. Natal redtop, an annual or perennial grass, is a major threat to both populations of *Tetramolopium capillare* (HPCC 1992a, 1992b; O'Connor 1990). Both koa haole, often the dominant species in dry, disturbed, low elevation areas, and lantana, an aggressive, thicket-forming shrub, have also invaded the habitat of *Tetramolopium capillare* (Geesnick et al. 1990; HPCC 1992a; S. Perlman, pers. comm., 1992). Because both populations of *Tetramolopium capillare* grow in dry areas, wildfire poses a threat to the species (HPCC 1992a; S. Perlman, pers. comm., 1992).

The Service has carefully assessed the best scientific and commercial information available regarding the past, present, and future threats faced by this species in determining to propose this rule. Based on this evaluation, the preferred action is to list *Tetramolopium capillare* as endangered. This species numbers no more than about 12 individuals in 2 populations and is threatened by habitat degradation, competition from alien plants, fire, and lack of legal protection. Small population size and limited distribution make this species particularly vulnerable to reduced reproductive vigor and/or extinction from stochastic events. Because this species is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, it fits the definition of endangered as defined in this Act.

Critical habitat is not being proposed for *Tetramolopium capillare* for reasons discussed in the "Critical Habitat" section of this proposal.

**Critical Habitat**

Section 4(a)(3) of the Act, as amended, requires that, to the maximum extent prudent and determinable, the Secretary propose critical habitat at the time the species is proposed to be endangered. The Service finds that designation of critical habitat is not presently prudent for *Tetramolopium capillare*. Such a determination would result in no known benefit to the species. The publication of precise maps and descriptions of critical habitat in the Federal Register and local newspapers as required in a proposal for critical habitat would increase the

degree of threat to this species from take or vandalism and, therefore, could contribute to its decline and increase enforcement problems. The listing of this species as endangered publicizes the rarity of the plants and, thus, can make the species attractive to researchers, curiosity seekers, or collectors of rare plants. All involved parties and the landowner have been notified of the importance of protecting the habitat of *Tetramolopium capillare*, which will be addressed through the recovery process. There are no known Federal activities within the currently known habitat of this species. Therefore, the Service finds that designation of critical habitat for this species is not prudent at this time, because such designation would increase the degree of threat from vandalism, collecting, or other human activities and because it is unlikely to aid in the conservation of this species.

#### Available Conservation Measures

Conservation measures provided to taxa listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act include recognition, recovery actions, requirements for Federal protection, and prohibitions against certain activities. Recognition through listing encourages and results in conservation actions by Federal, State, and private agencies, groups, and individuals. The Endangered Species Act provides for possible land acquisition and cooperation with the State and requires that recovery actions be carried out for all listed species. The protection required of Federal agencies and the prohibitions against certain activities involving listed plants are discussed, in part, below.

Section 7(a) of the Act, as amended, requires Federal agencies to evaluate their actions with respect to any taxon that is proposed or listed as endangered and with respect to its critical habitat, if any is being designated. Regulations implementing this interagency cooperation provision of the Act are codified at 50 CFR part 402. Section 7(a)(4) of the Act requires Federal agencies to confer informally with the Service on any action that is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species or result in destruction or adverse modification of proposed critical habitat. If a species is listed subsequently, section 7(a)(2) requires Federal agencies to insure that activities they authorize, fund, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of such a species or to destroy or adversely modify its critical habitat. If a Federal action may affect a listed species or its critical

habitat, the responsible Federal agency must enter into formal consultation with the Service. There are no known Federal activities that occur within the habitat of *Tetramolopium capillare*.

The Act and its implementing regulations found at 50 CFR 17.61, 17.62, and 17.63 for endangered plants set forth a series of general prohibitions and exceptions that apply to all endangered plant species. With respect to *Tetramolopium capillare*, all trade prohibitions of section 9(a)(2) of the Act, implemented by 50 CFR 17.61, would apply. These prohibitions, in part, make it illegal with respect to any endangered plant for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to import or export; transport in interstate or foreign commerce in the course of a commercial activity; sell or offer for sale in interstate or foreign commerce; remove and reduce to possession any such species from areas under Federal jurisdiction; maliciously damage or destroy any such species on any area under Federal jurisdiction; or remove, cut, dig up, damage, or destroy any such species on any other area in knowing violation of any State law or regulation or in the course of any violation of a State criminal trespass law. Certain exceptions apply to agents of the Service and State conservation agencies. The Act and 50 CFR 17.62 and 17.63 also provide for the issuance of permits to carry out otherwise prohibited activities involving endangered plant species under certain circumstances. It is anticipated that few trade permits would ever be sought or issued. The species is not common in the wild and is only rarely cultivated.

Requests for copies of the regulations concerning listed plants and inquiries regarding prohibitions and permits may be addressed to the Office of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, room 432, Arlington, Virginia 22203-3507 (703/358-2104; FAX 703/358-2281).

#### Public Comments Solicited

The Service intends that any final action resulting from this proposal will be as accurate and as effective as possible. Therefore, comments or suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, industry, or any other interested party concerning this proposed rule are hereby solicited. Comments particularly are sought concerning:

(1) Biological, commercial trade, or other relevant data concerning any threat (or lack thereof) to *Tetramolopium capillare*;

(2) The location of any additional populations of *Tetramolopium capillare*, and the reasons why any habitat should or should not be determined to be critical habitat as provided by section 4 of the Act;

(3) Additional information concerning the range, distribution, and population size of *Tetramolopium capillare*; and

(4) Current or planned activities in the subject area and their possible impacts on *Tetramolopium capillare*.

The final decision on this proposal will take into consideration the comments and any additional information received by the Service, and such communications may lead to a final regulation that differs from this proposal.

The Endangered Species Act provides for one or more public hearings on this proposal, if requested. Requests must be received within 45 days of the date of publication of the proposal. Such requests must be made in writing and addressed to the Field Supervisor (see ADDRESSES section).

#### National Environmental Policy Act

The Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement, as defined under the authority of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, need not be prepared in connection with regulations adopted pursuant to section 4(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. A notice outlining the Service's reasons for this determination was published in the *Federal Register* on October 25, 1983 (48 FR 49244).

#### References Cited

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#### Author

The author of this proposed rule is Zella E. Ellshoff, Pacific Islands Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, room 6307, P.O. Box 50167, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 (808/541-2749).

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and Transportation.

#### Proposed Regulation Promulgation

Accordingly, it is hereby proposed to amend Part 17, Subchapter B of Chapter I, Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as set forth below:

#### PART 17—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361-1407; 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544; 16 U.S.C. 4201-4245; Pub. L. 99-625, 100 Stat. 3500; unless otherwise noted.

2. It is proposed to amend § 17.12(h) by adding the following, in alphabetical order under the family indicated, to the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants:

#### § 17.12 Endangered and threatened plants.

\* \* \* \* \*

(h) \* \* \*

Species			Historic range	Status	When listed	Critical habi- tat	Special rules
Scientific name	Common name						
Asteraceae—Aster family:							
<i>Tetramolopium capillare</i> .	Pamakani .....	U.S.A. (HI) .....	E	.....	NA	NA	

Dated: March 11, 1993.

Richard N. Smith,

Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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